c.27.8 : Broadcasting - radio & tv

Televising boxing match, 1955 201.14

headlines

1896 Rutherford transmits first radio signal from Cavendish laboratory to Madingley road observatory [1.15]

1913 Cambridgeshire has been chosen for a series of experiments with the new patent wireless telegraphy apparatus invented by Senor Marconi, which can be fitted on four pack horses and erected in six minutes. The first experiment was made at Saffron Walden when the new 'Pack Station' consisting of a small petrol motor, transmitter and receiver and 30ft high aerial mast was erected on the common and wireless messages were received from Chelmsford. Next day it was erected at Somersham where experiments were continued. It will be moved across Cambridgeshire 13 02 28 p8 CIP

1921 Pye Ltd changed to radio 1921 when lapse in demand for instruments; 210 ft aerial mast put up at start war to help develop defence systems & once used very low power experimental tv programmes [446.17.1]

1922 broadcasting in public sense starts, Pye radios sell well [1.15]

1922 Cambridge Daily News start series of articles instructing in use of radio receiver [2.11]

1922 Wireless amateurs who are not owner-occupiers are discovering that landlords object to the putting up of aerials. Radio enthusiasts will probably do better to wait until it becomes certain on what lines the broadcasting hobby will be developed and perfected. It is not making such rapid progress as people expected and those who wait a little will probably save money. By all accounts it will not be necessary to have aerials at all. Any ordinary electric light installations will provide all that is

necessary for an efficient wireless aerial. It there is neither electric light or bells, gas pipes can be used, or failing this a wire garden fence, or it may be said nothing more than a pair of knitting needles will be essential. All this remains to be proved and just as it took a long while to perfect the gramophone so we must expect it to be with wireless developments c22 09 19

1922 The growth of wireless since its first invention is truly wonderful, and one cannot fail to be impressed with the way in which it has been simplified. The present arrangements for "broadcasting" have resulted in the setting up of many private installations in Cambridge and some of the finest "sets" are being produced at Messrs G.H. Pye's works in Cam-road. In 1921 this firm experienced a very slack time, and in order to keep their workers employed, they commenced experiments in wireless. They are now producing as fast as they can simplified receiving sets of two to five valves c22 11 20

1922 The Cambridge & District Wireless Society had a "full house" at their demonstration on broadcasting. Mr T. Robinson, manager of Pye's Scientific Instrument Co. had very kindly consented to demonstrate their latest broadcast receiver of five valves attached to which was a Magnavox loud-speaking telephone. Mr Robinson tuned up for the London broadcasting station and amongst the items heard were Mr Vivian Foster, known to Cambridge theatre-goers as the "vicar of mirth" who entertained the audience by his witty sayings. During the evening the Birmingham and Manchester broadcasting stations were also received. The latest news, billiard scores, market reports and latest weather report were items among a very varied programme c22 12 15

1923 Soon after seven o'clock on Sunday evening passers-by in the vicinity of Newmarket Road were somewhat surprised by the appearance of a saloon car carrying a wildness outfit. The aerial was comparatively large, and was suspended from two poles at either end of the roof. The sight was sufficiently rare to cause much curiosity and comment. A number of new inventions have been referred to in our wireless articles and it is easy to foresee that in a few years, far from being a novelty, no car will be complete without its wireless installation c23 07 29

1924 crowds on Market Hill listen to Kings speech at opening of Wembley exhibition [2.12]

1925 Mammoth Show committee launch ‘wireless year’ aiming to provide Addenbrooke’s Hospital with a phone at each bed [1.16]

1925 Cambridge Poor Law Guardians considered installing wireless apparatus at the Institution. Mrs Keynes said some members were not entirely satisfied that it would be a very great boon to the inmates, partly because of the nature of the entertainment and partly because the best part of the performance usually came on after their inmates had gone to bed. The chairman handed round copies of the “Radio Times” to enable members to see the types of programmes given. Messrs Allin’s estimate for a six-valve set with five loud speakers was £65. Chesterton Institution had installed three loud speakers and they were appreciated c25 05 22

1926 The action of the Master of the Cambridge Workhouse in ordering without authority the fixing of five extra wireless plugs evoked an indignant discussion. The Wireless Committee reported that they had provided for 12 plug points, one of which was in the Master’s dining room. He had ordered five extra, including one in his drawing room and another in his bedroom. Mr Lofts asked: “Does the Master want singing to sleep” (Laughter). They did not consider it necessary for the Master to have three plugs in his own quarters and they should be removed c26 03 28

1926 The Cambridge Camera and Wireless Co. of Alexandra Street offers a very complete range of component parts or complete wireless sets. The famous Pye sets can be seen in their windows, also the self-contained “Britamax All-Wave” receivers. Specialities of this firm include reliable, but cheap H.T. batteries, valves and loud speakers c26 12 14

1927 One of the largest crowds in memory witnessed the last of what may go down in history as the “Microphone Mays”. Both banks of the Cam at Ditton presented the spectacle of an unbroken line of sightseers. There were three men up a tree at Ditton Paddock; they and their friend the microphone were telling all England what was happening and theirs was truly a romance of the tree tops. One wonders how many old Cambridge men were listening-in to a drama in which they once played a part. c27 06 12

1929 Wireless broadcasting masts, Ely – CDN 21.8.1929

1929 New wireless station transmitter benefits Cambridge CDN 18.9.1929

1930 The Edison Bell Gramophone and Radio Works at Huntingdon employ over 300 people. About 30,000 'Radio' records are made each week; they are stamped out between dies and passed to girls to put the edge and finishing touches. Various gramophones and wirelesses are manufactured including compact two and three valve 'all-main' sets in preparation for the Radio Exhibition. Amongst the machinery used are automatic lathes which need no human attention. 30 09 12

1930 Millers all-electric wireless receivers photos – 30 12 20

1931 A wireless broadcast relay service may be installed in Cambridge. Rediffusion wish to place wires over the streets and would pay the Corporation £250 per annum for the first 1,000 subscribers. The charge would be 1s 6d a week, plus sixpence for a loud speaker and ten shillings for the Post Office wireless licence. But the service was limited to one programme and was nothing like as good as having a set of your own 31 07 17f

1931 The Cambridge Radio Relay Company has been formed by local firms. Many people who would not go to the bother of erecting aerials could get really good reception for a moderate outlay. The best programmes would be broadcast, trouble free and without the erection of unsightly posts and wires. The mains are carried by arrangement with G.P.O. telephone lines to the various districts. The service would also be useful for local S.O.S. messages by locating people at short notice. 31 08 28c

1931 'Hello! Folks', the wireless celebrity entertainment which presents world-famous BBC stars in person will be produced at the Cambridge New Theatre. It will be presented by Tommy Handley, the renowned comedian, and include the Fayre Sisters, Mabel Marks, Wilson Hallett who mimics children, Mario Lorenzi the West End concert harpist and Jack Payne the whistling newsboy 31 08 28d

1931 A combined exhibition by members of the Wireless Retailers' Association opened at the Cambridge Guildhall. J.T. Harvey of Aylestone Road is showing sets all of his own manufacture, the receivers being especially adapted for Cambridge listeners. W.K. Islip displayed Murphy Ultra products as well as Cossar kits and Beethoven portables while R. Lathbury of Castle Street sells Kelster Brandes including the Kobra three-valve complete with loud speaker. 31 10 19g & h

1933 Cambridge councillors rejected plans for the provision of a wireless relay service. People who could not afford expensive wireless sets could receive programmes by possession of a loud-speaker. The continual exchanging of unsatisfactory wireless sets was an expensive item for meagre incomes while subscription to a relay would secure perfect reception. But it would give a monopoly of news and programmes into the hands of one company and increase the number of unsightly wires over back gardens 33 05 25

1933 wireless relay service report – 33 05 22a

1933 The University Engineering Society was packed for the first public demonstration of television in Cambridge with the picture being transmitted from one side of the room to the other and projected on a four foot square screen. After a pause while the transmitter and receiver were synchronised, the room was plunged into total darkness, then suddenly there appeared on the screen the blurred and flickering figure of an undergraduate's head and shoulders. He caused some amusement by blowing his nose several times. Later a microphone was brought into use and sound, as well as pictures, 'came across' 33 11 14 [1.3]

1933 Sir - The London and North-Eastern Railway are to withdraw wireless from their London-Leeds trains blaming the 'prohibitive' charges announced by the Performing Rights Society for the use of its copyright music. But the fee is only three shillings a week per train and when challenged they now say the service was uneconomic and had never covered its cost. The payment of a fee to the composer is as much a cost of production as the ten shilling licence to the BBC or the installation of earphones – C.F. James, Performing Rights Society. 33 11 10

1934 Many Cambridge people listened to the Royal Wedding of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina by medium of the wireless. Some of those without a set hired one for the occasion. A CDN report who listened to the broadcast in a car was able to hear every word of the ceremony as

microphones followed the progress of the two lovers inside the Abbey. The sweet singing of the choir and the pealing of the organ mingled into one glorious harmony. Then millions of listeners in cottage and mansion, in office and home heard the royal lovers plight their troth – and heard the voice of the beautiful Princess Marina for the first time. 34 11 29 & a

1935 "A broadcast of the future": old rowers watch race on large TV screen – 35 04 06

1935 The Cambridge Wireless Retailers Association show has several stands carrying a full range of the local product, Pye, including the all-wave model, the radiogramophone and the battery and all-elect superhets and portables. For those who have a preference for non-factory made sets there is the Harvey model. This locally-made receiver is made by hand with all the skill and care which expert workmanship can give it. One of the features for which it is noted is its great reliability. 35 10 07b

1936 It is many years since Raymond Bennett was a Cambridge semi-professional entertainer who made early appearances in cine-variety at the Playhouse, Mill Road. He has progressed rapidly and Cambridge audiences now have an opportunity of seeing him at the Theatre Cinema with his partner of many broadcasts. Bennett and McNaughton have achieved great success on the music halls, including the Holborn Empire, and have attained great popularity as broadcasting stars. Those who have listened to their broadcasts will be glad of this opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a popular local artiste 36 01 17

1936 The King's Coronation may be televised as will next year's boat race, Post Office engineers were told. "How are we going to do that? Some think that in 10 years time people who have got the telephone service will want to use those wires for a re-diffusion service for broadcasts. It means that every wire has got to carry a much greater frequency and you will have to re-lay the undergrounds. I cannot see the end of these expansions. None of us can", the Superintending Engineer asked. 36 03 23 & a

1936 Cambridge Short Wave Club was formed to foster and maintain interest in short wave radio, discuss problems, provide technical literature and exchange 'junk'. They hoped to install a club transmitter and arrange instruction in Morse for beginners. H.W. Scott presided at the first meeting when a large number of short wave fans attended together with transmitters 5JO, 2PL, 6HD, 2KW and 5PU 36 04 23

1936 Friends of the Cambridge Town Silver Band will be glad to know that they are to give another broadcast on Saturday afternoon. This will be on the 'National' wave length but all B.B.C. stations are taking the programme. Last time the band opened with an original item by the conductor (Mr R.E. Austin) called 'Cambridge Bells' which featured the melody of the Roman Catholic Church chimes. This time they will start with his new military march 'Cantabrigia'. The band will be having a busy day for that evening they will be playing for the promenade concert on Christ's Pieces 36 06 06b

1936 The Truevoice Recording Studio in Jesus Lane is now open every day for the producing of gramophone records. Your opportunity to hear yourself on a perfect 10 inch double sided wax record for a fee of 10/6. Children's voices faithfully reproduced. Specially equipped studio for music and orchestral recordings. These records make ideal Christmas Gifts to your friends. Why not make one and send it to them. They will be delighted – Advert. 36 11 28b

1937 Although rebuilt as recently as 1935, Robinson's garage in St Andrew's Street has again been enlarged to meet ever-increasing business. This has enabled them to enlarge their radio department which is quite distinct from the motoring side of the business. It is staffed by men who have made radio their special study and offers hundreds of brand-new sets (some in their original cases) at pounds below list prices. The radio service department is one of the finest in the entire country with engineers from Marconi, H.M.V. and Pye factories. 37 02 06c & d

1937 Cambridge transmitter, G2XV, is one of the most successful amateur short wave radiotelephony stations in the country. Its semi-vertical antenna enables it to be heard on the 20-metre band in almost all corners of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, India, Honolulu and every state in the USA. It is owned by G.A. Jeapes of Perne Road, whose interest in short-wave transmissions goes back to the days before radio broadcasting was ever thought of. 37 03 03

1937 At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b
1937 Cartoon showing new Mayor, Saville Peck in a Council radio studio – 37 11 06a
1938 Cambridge Reference Library was packed to capacity for a lecture and demonstration on television by Mr D. Jackson of Pye Ltd. Severe electrical interference unfortunately ruined the first half of the programme from the Alexandra Palace but when after half-past-nine this eased off they were able to see some quite good vision signals and appreciate the high standard which can be expected in an area where interference is not so acute as it is in the centre of the town. 38 03 10

1942 David's bookstall featured in Canadian radio broadcast, started 1886 now one of oldest on market– 42 07 04
1943 radio programme features Cambridge requests [1.4]
1943 Anglo-American Christmas party broadcast from Guildhall [1.5]
1944 Gardeners' Question Time broadcast from Guildhall – 44 10 24
1945 Revolutionary new television system demonstrated by Pye Ltd in their television theatre – would allow production receivers for £40 – CDN 1945 11 01
1947 Fens floods story broadcast, 47 08 09 p6
1948 Sir - May I remind correspondents that they are expecting their television receivers to operate satisfactorily under extremely adverse conditions. Not only are they over 40 miles from Alexandra Palace, which is considered the optimum distance for reliable reception, but they are resident in areas of high density of population, with its resultant interference from all forms of domestic apparatus, such as reaction receivers, vacuum cleaners, thermostatically controlled irons, cookers and water heaters, electric fans and motors, cars and other heavy road transport. They are extremely lucky to be able to receive and signal at all - Radio Engineer 48 03 23
1948 An interesting feature of the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council exhibition is the relaying to the Guildhall of a commentary of the conduct of road users given from a police patrol car touring the town. Members of the public are invited to accompany the commentator in the patrol car. Though police radio is not yet in use in Cambridge special arrangements have been made to fit apparatus which will also be used when the general system comes into operation c48 11 24
1948 Six undergraduates have published a report setting forth the possibilities of creating a University Radio Station in Cambridge, operated by undergraduates and broadcasting regular programmes in term time for a local audience. A specimen programme shows it would have excepts from local functions, interviews, reading, dramatic and musical productions, sport, news and talks on a variety of subjects c48 06 26 [1.8]
1948 numbers of viewers increase, "788 tv viewers in Cambridge", "972licences now" [1.10,1.9]
1948 Radio is to be brought into place shortly to help Cambridgeshire fire fighters. Two fire engines and four staff cars at the Newmarket Road Headquarters are to be fitted with a V.H.F.-type speech transmitter and receiver, similar to those fitted to R.A.F. planes. The fixed 12-watt transmitter will also be used by the police force to originate their message operation. The two fire engines fitted with radio are the ones normally sent out immediately on receipt of a fire call. "The advantage of using radio is that we have no need to depend on telephone for getting reinforcements," said Chief Officer Knowles c48 07 24
1948 For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. "Closed-circuit" as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between

8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,00 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down c48 11 26

1949 Pye give first successful demonstration of colour tv at Olympia [1.17]

1949 "Down Your Way" came down this way when a BBC mobile recording unit spent a day "canning" material for next Sunday's broadcast in the Light Programme. Various personalities of the town, university and district were interviewed by Richard Dimbleby.. Amongst them were Mr R. Shorrock who works for Pest Control Ltd, Miss M. Stuart, secretary of the Arts Theatre, Mr Fred Hudson, a television tester at Pye Ltd, Mrs Maltby who made the robe in which the Queen received her honorary degree, and Mr R, J. Pointer who is a CND linotype operator c49 01 27

1949 Sir – I should like to appeal to local amateur radio transmitters to refrain from transmitting during the limited periods of the day and evening when television programmes are broadcast. The interference can blot out the picture on all television screens in the vicinity, taking the form of a "trellis" pattern or light an dark bands on the picture. Radio dealers and service engineers have only two hours a day during business hours when they can demonstrate and test television receivers and would appreciate more consideration from the radio amateurs who have the remaining 20 hours during which to transmit (evening programmes occupying about two hours) – Televiewer c49 02 03

1949 The BBC have completed tests and accepted delivery of a new Outside Broadcast Control Vehicle from Pye ltd of Cambridge. Everything required for the production and transmission of a complete television broadcast is contained in this unique mobile unit, the most modern equipment of its kind in the world, including a set of three of the latest Pye turret-headed television cameras. It is the first Pye outside broadcast vehicle produced for the BBC and the first to go into regular service since the war c49 02 12

1949 Television brought the boat race into thousands of homes with equipment produced by Pye Radio Ltd playing a prominent part. A Pye transmitter was on the launch "Conseuta" and the static cameras from Barnes bridge onwards were a product of the Cambridge firm. The relay was a tremendous success, with viewers sharing every one of the thrills of this greatest of all boat races. Approximately 600 people heard the broadcast in the Central Cinema. This evening there will be a free television show by Pye in the circle lounge c49 03 26

1949 A police radio network covering Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough has come into operation. Now within a few minutes of any incident being reported the nearest cruising police cars can be speeding to the spot. Radio will help greatly in car theft cases, enabling descriptions of missing vehicles to be circulated in a few seconds over a wide area. The Fire Brigade is also in the scheme. The master station through which the whole scheme is controlled is situated at County Police Headquarters, Castle Hill, Cambridge 49 04 18

1949 A story of high-pressure work since last March under a top-secret cloak lies behind the announcement that Pye Ltd of Cambridge will give the first successful demonstration of colour television in this country at Radiolympia. Research into colour television has proceeded for a long time, but it was only in March that the decision was made to produce the intricate equipment required. The secrecy with which this work proceeded is indicated by the fact that Pye's employees themselves have not yet seen a demonstration. The firm say that colour television is still many years off 49 09 27

1949 "Ben", the talking dog owned by Mr Alfred Brissenden of Royston, is to make another broadcast. Now eight years old "Ben" will appear on the Light Programme. It will be remembered that "Ben" is no stranger to the microphone, having appeared in television "Picture Page" in September 1946, when he almost "let down the side" by mistaking a fellow artiste's fur coat for a cat. Eminent veterinary surgeons have examined "Ben's" vocal apparatus and have been considerably impressed by his accomplishment. Unfortunately when making his NBC broadcast in 1946, "Ben" developed mike-fright and it is hoped his performance on Thursday will reproduce perfectly for the delight of his many fans. 49 11 25

1950 Workers Playtime broadcast from Marshall's [1.19]

1950 1 in 4 Cambridge homes have radio licence [1.20]
1950 "2848 tv licences holders in Cambridge area, an increase of 1,227in year" [1.20]
1950 A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control 50 03 01
1950 Television viewers in De Freville district found themselves "looking in" to an extra programme after the BBC transmission had finished. An explanation from the Chairman of Pye Ltd, "we were televising at the works on a closed-circuit and there was a leaky cable", he said. A viewer said, "We saw Annette Mills and her puppet kitten doing some washing, Dickie Murdock also appeared as did Jack and Daphne Barker. There was some advertising matter including a reference to the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. The transmission came from a transmitter the Pye Company was testing out prior to ending it to an exhibition in Berlin. 50 09 22
1950 Cambridge housing committee recommends the installation of television sets should not be allowed at Donkey common, as it would not be advisable to erect aerials on the roof of the huts. If erected independently they would have to be supported by guy-ropes which might prove a nuisance to other tenants and a danger to children c50 10 19
1950 Mr C.O. Stanley, Managing Director of Pye Ltd told the Radio Industries Club luncheon, "we have now arrived at a time when we should put down a second television system in this country – a system which operates two programmes on the ultra-high frequency band, both in colour at the same time; one to be operated by the BBC and the other by commercial interests. We have to have alternatives, I don't think it is possible to put out a single programme and cover the tastes of everyone" 50 11 01
1951 Workers Playtime broadcast from Pye's [1.21]
1951 Two hundred London taxis took the road this morning under orders for the first time, over a short wave radio network system pioneered by Pye Radio technicians from Cambridge. In London, at a big party attended by top stage and screen stars to celebrate the inauguration of this new radiocab service was Mr Harry Woolgar, a director of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. He said: "This is the largest radio-telephone system taxi network in Europe and we are planning a larger system capable of directing 1,000 taxis". Pye got the job because it pioneered fitting radio telephones to police cars and ambulances and was the first to use short-wave radio for agricultural use. 51 07 27
1951 Some of the world's leading television scientists are in Cambridge for a Convention at the Cavendish Laboratory. So far as can be seen, television receivers will never again be so cheap as they are today. New valves, new circuits and new T.V. cameras form part of the discussions; two papers have been written by members of local firms. Messrs J.E. Cope, L.W. Germany & R. Theile of Pye-Cathodeon will speak on the Image Iconoscope Type Television Camera Tube c51 08 21
1951 A team of six etymologists was selected for the BBC Programme of "Say The Word" and coached with practice questions at the Houghton Hall, Cambridge. In the basement an elaborate apparatus was connected to the G.P.O to relay the programme directly to the recording chambers of the BBC. A brilliant five-minutes dissertation was provided by Dylan Thomas, the well-known poet, who was filling the role as visiting word expert. Bringing piquant Welsh humour to a funereal topic he illuminated his audience as to the origin of the phrase "Kicking the Bucket" c51 11 08
1952 new-look aerials on 1 in 5 city homes [1.22]
1952 plan for tv broadcasting station on Gogs, sponsored by Peaks who would transmit their own test card - refused [1.23,2.2]
1952 The first Provincial 4½ hours' night T.V. service for viewers if their sets go wrong is being operated by Messrs H.W. Peak Ltd., King Street, Cambridge. To the 100 feet aerial above the firm's premises the Fire Service will tomorrow bracket a V.H.F. transmitted aerial for radio contact with

their engineers. A phone call will reach an operator who will contact by radio one of the firm's two servicing engineers who will be at home with a van (and a spare T.V. set) at the ready. He will go to the caller's home. Mr John Peak said: "I feel a T.V. night service is essential, as it is mainly used for evening viewing, when it is annoying for the public to find their set has a fault and they are unable to get in touch with anybody to put it right" 52 01 01

1952 The wired radio system at Old Addenbrooke's Hospital in Trumpington was installed in 1952 after a public appeal organised by the News. Originally it provided the BBC Home and Light programme. The name Radio Addenbrooke's was coined in 1954 when Toc H. started football commentaries which were recorded on tape and late related to patients. Then in 1956 Don Hale started a record request programme. When the new hospital opened a studio was also provided by public subscription 81 08 28 [2.1]

1952 The first BBC television play to be directed by a Cambridge-born man was seen on Thursday. It was "The Prisoner", a new play by Andrew Cruickshank, produced by Ian Atkins and directed by Julian Amyes who is an Old Persean and brother of Mr S.J. Amyes, news editor of the CDN. He began his professional stage career after leaving the University in 1939 & was President of the University Mummers in 1938-39 CDN 22.2.1952

1952 Seven thousand Cambridge television viewers are promised almost perfect reception if official sanction is received for a new T.V. broadcasting station to open early in the New Year. The original BBC signal will be picked up on a 50-foot-high aerial on the "Gogs" and beamed down on the city. John Peak, manager of Peak's King Street television service, the sponsors of the scheme said: "Viewers will receive an almost unmarred signal well in time for the Coronation". The large "H" aerial now on chimney-pots would no longer be necessary; instead a small rod can be hung from the bedroom window. 52 10 11

1953 8750 tv licences [2.3]

1953 In Fallowfields 58 out of 129 houses have aerials - 45% [2.5]

1953 The television broadcast of the Coronation ceremony will be shown to some 250 people on big screen projectors in Cambridge Guildhall. The projectors are specialised television receivers and produce a picture four feet wide. The picture quality is remarkable but much depends on the signal strength and the co-operation of motorists and other persons who cause T/V electrical interference is invited in keeping away from the vicinity of the Guildhall on Coronation morning. Seats will be allocated to pensioners, wounded ex-Servicemen and similar deserving cases. c53 05 14 [2.4]

1953 On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens 53 06 03

1953 All work at the Pye Factory ended early and the employees dined off sandwich instead of their customary hot meal as they crammed into the works canteen for a visit of the BBC "Workers' Playtime" broadcast. The entertainment featured the close-harmony quintet 'The Coronets', Lionel Saxon, 'genial host of the Winkle Club', who put plenty of energy into his comic impersonations & Monica Owen with her intimate songs. The broadcast ended with Beryl Reid, who was greeted with shrieks of laughter when she appeared in black stockings and green gym tunic with her handkerchief tucked away in the traditional schoolgirl place for her caricature of Monica, the awful child. 53 07 31

1953 While the National Radio Exhibition at Earls Court offers the best in radio and television under one roof, Cambridge's own exhibition goes on throughout the year in the windows and showrooms of the city's radio stores. Langham Radio Services of Mill Road have the Sobel 14-inch tv for 64 guineas or the Cossor 12-inch at 50 guineas. Morley & Duke offer a free demonstration in your

own home of the Pye V4 television with automatic picture control which costs £64.18.0 or on H.P. at 15/- weekly 53 08 25

1954 Kings College carol service shown on tv [2.7]

1954 The proposed arrangements for an alternative television programme will not give a satisfactory signal in the Cambridge area. Multi channel convertors now being incorporated in some makes of set may be outdated and unserviceable when the Cambridge viewer wants to use them. Our advice is to have the convertor fitted when – and only when – Cambridge comes within the range of the proposed new stations. To buy a set with a convertor at present means paying 5-7 guineas more for what is, to the Cambridge viewer, a useless article. – H.W. Peak, Radio & Television Dept, King Street – advert. 54 03 18

1954 Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars. 54 05 04

1954 The first demonstration in Britain of 3-D television attracted large crowds to the Pye Radio works stand at the Radio and T.V. Exhibition at Earls Court, London. From a miniature studio built on a raised platform in the middle of the stand 3-D television pictures were being screened on experimental sets a few feet away. The viewers had to wear polarised spectacles. Pye do not expect sets to be on sale to the public in the near future; as a home entertainment 3-D television is a very long way off yet. At the moment they are perfecting it for use in industry. 54 08 25

1955 tv service from Norwich starts, (up to full power 1957) [2.6]

1955 Pye has produced a radio clock. It incorporates an electric alarm clock with a 5-amp socket so that either an electric fire or a tea maker can be set for the same time as the alarm, which switches on the radio automatically. It operates on the medium waveband with one pre-set long wave station and has a 'sleep switch' to enable it to be turned off automatically when the owner falls asleep 55 08 20b

1956 Cambridge has 18,336 television licence holders but there may well be 360 sudden new applications in the next few weeks with the arrival of the Television Detector Van. It makes no attempt to hide its purpose, there are three loop aerials on the roof and it contains an operator who listens in to detector equipment that can pinpoint the precise house in a row where a set is being used. People can be fined up to £10 and their sets may be forfeited. 56 08 23b [2.8]

1956 Bridge Street is usually one of the most congested points in Cambridge but even the pavement suffered from overcrowding when pedestrians stopped to look at a television camera which had appeared in King and Harper's showrooms. The firm has arranged demonstrations of domestic appliances and for the first time Pye industrial television equipment, operating on a closed circuit, is being used to relay them to other audiences. Everybody is assured of a clear view of what is going on. 56 04 05

1956 Special precautions were taken by the BBC to avoid disturbance from the League of Empire Loyalists when 'Commonwealth Town Forum' was broadcast from Cambridge Guildhall. Four stewards and a plain-clothed detective stood by for possible annoyance and a special microphone was ready to cut out audience noises. But the only trouble was a small outburst from obvious members of the party which passed almost un-noticed. 56 06 29a

1956 High-ranking Service officials, including some from Russia, went for a 20-minute helicopter ride over Cambridge without moving from the comfortable dining rooms of the University Arms Hotel. They watched one of the first-ever air to ground television transmissions carried out by Pye Radio from a Bristol Sycamore. The pictures were broadcast to several 21 inch screens and showed the view from 1,100 ft before zooming down to catch an express train just leaving the station. 56 09 21

1956 New equipment developed by Pye of Cambridge means that six times as many people can use radio communications and foreshadows immense developments. Telephones for the use of the

travelling public in aeroplanes, railways and road services are now a possibility and a radio-telephone could become a standard fitting in all road vehicles, C.O. Stanley predicted. 56 12 01b

1957 The long association of Pye and King and Harper of Cambridge will be celebrated in a 'Pye Parade' exhibition at Harper's Bridge Street premises. The highlight will be a specially-erected television studio and each evening programmes of local interest will be transmitted. The shows can be viewed on receivers in many parts of the premises with a limited number of seats in the studio itself 57 02 22 57 02 27b

1957 Television sets are to be installed at Chesterton Secondary Modern School in an experiment to assess the value of this type of visual aid. In the years to come they may be as common as radios. However Coun Gardner-Smith claimed children spent a lot of time watching television: "Is it any wonder they are illiterate. This is simply another way of wasting time". 57 04 02a

1957 Cameras film Cambridge from rooftops – photo – 57 03 13

1958 The BBC have opened a new sound broadcasting studio in Cambridge to give better coverage to the city, University and county and transmit programmes with more local appeal. The studio, which is 'unattended' – there is no resident engineer – occupies part of the ADC Theatre buildings. It can be operated by BBC staff-men and other broadcasters without any technical wireless knowledge. All they have to do to broadcast is press a switch to be in contact with the BBC's engineers in Birmingham. 58 11 13 [3.1]

1959 Anglia tv opens highest mast in Europe, at Mendlesham [2.9]

1959 Thousands of new Anglia Television viewers are unaware that almost every piece of equipment that goes into the transmitting of the programmes was built in the Cambridge factories of Pye Limited. The Norwich studies are equipped with their cameras and control gear and 'remote' programmes use Pye mobile outside broadcast units. This is the latest version of the most successful unit ever produced and over 50 have been sold to television networks all over the world. 59 10 28b

1959 A monitor screen at the back of the church, shirt-sleeved technicians tip-toeing around, cameras rolling silently up and down the aisle and bright glaring lights pointing in every direction. This was just a part of what was involved in the telerecording of a Christmas service in Gt St Mary's church. It is to be shown by Anglia Television on Christmas night. The service was intended as a corporate act of worship for overseas students in Cambridge and a reminder of how the nations of the world might live together 59 12 03b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 The first full-size completely portable television is made by Pye of Cambridge. It has a 14-inch screen, covers all the usual BBC & ITA channels and includes a built-in aerial. It can be operated entirely from a built-in battery or connected to a car-battery system. It uses super modern transistors which are spreading rapidly through the development laboratories and production lines. One day there may be 'all-round' tv sets in 3D and colour, the company predicts 60 10 14a

1960 Cambridge Relayed Television Service comprises 24 television dealers who may combine with Multisignals Ltd to allow viewers to pay a rental for the use of a telephone cable to bring programmes to the house, saving the cost of putting an aerial on the chimney. People can continue to buy, hire or hire-purchase ordinary televisions but by fitting an adaptor to a single-channel set they will also be able to receive London and Anglia ITV. Cable also has provision for the future transmission of colour signals or 625-line broadcasts. 60 12 16d e f

1962 Piped television begins in Cambridge on Saturday when 30 Arbury Estate subscribers tune in to receive three television and four radio programmes via a 170 ft mast in King's Hedges Road. The British Wireless Relay Company says the cost of laying a complete underground network was prohibitive but wherever possible the cables were being put in the least conspicuous places. People can hire sets for between 7s6d and 13s a week 62 08 28 [3.4,2.10]

1962 A Cambridge electronic engineer says his research work into colour television has been set back by six months after highly secret plans were stolen. A specialist gang got into the Golden Rule

Laboratory at a converted public house, the Seven Stars in Litlington, and went straight for the files. They also took another device to enable the blind to see electronically. Edward Jaggers has warned his agents in Paris and Geneva about the raid. 65 05 14

1962 Cambridge now has British Relay wired television which is all ready for 625-line viewing of the new programmes and colour when it comes. It cuts out aerials and gives the crispest pictures without knob twiddling receiving the current BBC, London ITV and Anglia TV programmes, plus all BBC Home, Light and Third radio programmes and popular Radio Luxembourg. . Your own television set can receive Relay TV by means of the 'Relaydapta' which simply plugs into the aerial socket. Advertisement – 62 09 07c

1962 A familiar landmark of the Cambridge skyline is being taken down. The Pye mast was built at the start of the war to help them develop defence systems and also broadcast very low power experimental television programmes. It was originally 185 feet tall but extra aerials were added. At the top is a small cabin used to house experimental equipment and large enough for a man to work in. The mast will be replaced with a later type suitable for newest television techniques. 62 09 08a

1963 BBC engineers have been carrying out tests to find a suitable site for a relay booster television station in Cambridge. It follows a petition signed by 5,000 viewers that was organised by the Cambridge Radio and Television Retailers Association. The tests on Stourbridge Common involve the use of a barrage balloon which lifts a transmitting aerial to different heights. The signal is picked up by a mobile control room which travels around Cambridge testing reception in different areas – 63 02 22a

1963 A series of television lectures will be given by members of Cambridge University in a programme called 'Dawn University'. They will be transmitted at 7 a.m. over the whole of the ITV network to demonstrate the usefulness of television as a teaching medium. It is the first time such programmes have appeared so early and it is impossible to say how many people will get up early to watch them. There will also be two-way lectures between Cambridge and the new University of East Anglia at Norwich and a closed-circuit link with scientists at Imperial College, London. 63 10 05

1964 'Dawn University' tv experiment review – 64 03 09a

1965 The world's largest and most advanced amateur television station is based in Jeremy Royle's home at Duddenhoe End and he puts out a regular transmission each evening. Another station is owned by Douglas Wiles of Mill Road whose equipment and home-made camera is fitted into his living room. Both are members of the Cambridge Amateur Radio Club and the audience consists of about half-a-dozen people who can switch on their transmitter and chat to the figure on the screen. The availability of cheap war surplus material gave amateur radio and television a boost in the post-war years but today the supplies have died away 65 02 08c

1965 BBC producing film showing residents in Cambridge to be broadcast on Channel Five transmitters not visible in Cambridge – 65 06 30

1965 Edward Milner plans a library of recordings of music, intellectual and sports material featuring Cambridge – 65 10 22b # c.27.8

1966 Pirate radio station may go on air as May-Week stunt – 66 06 10

1966 Sinclair Radionics mini-tv shown at Television and Radio Show at Earl's Court – 66 08 22

1966 Pye pocket radio-telephone exhibited – 66 09 07

1966 Cambridge could be chosen as one of nine sites for experimental local radio service by BBC – 66 12 20

1967 Cambridge does not want to be considered for local radio station yet – 67 03 10a

1969 local radio discussion [3.6]

1969 1st class colour reception now on BBC 2 (only) (on all 3 channels with opening of Sandy Heath transmitter 1971) [3.7,3.9]

1971 Cambridge Free Radio off air after being hunted down by Post Office engineers – had been broadcasting over a 25-mile radius from Histon – 71 02 19a

1971 Community radio concept for city: Brian Jackson of Advisory Centre for Education has developed a proposals for new form of broadcasting; Enid Porter would speak on fen customs – 71 02 26b

1971 Commercial radio: culture or canned music – feature – 71 04 23

1972 A pirate radio station operating from a Cambridge council house was pounced on by GPO officials and police yesterday. They took away a transmitter and a cassette recorder. The raid on the house came exactly six minutes after the illegal radio station – calling itself Radio Caroline - started its regular Sunday lunchtime pirate broadcast. For more than a year GPO engineers have been trying to track down the wavelength and whereabouts of the radio and using detector vehicles they closed in on the Cherry Hinton area. The station had been broadcasting fairly regularly each Sunday for almost 18 months c72 07 10 [3.8]

1971 commercial radio discussed [3.10]

1972 CEN owners will tender for licences local radio [3.11]

1972 A group of educationalists today unveiled detailed proposals for a community radio in Cambridge. If the trust get a licence they will cover everything from university talks to darts matches. They make it clear that they do not want a station which resorts to excessive pop music, peak listening periods would be devoted to local news, light entertainment and pop music. From 5pm to 6.30 pm there would be a children's programme followed by news. The late night slot from 11pm to 1 am would be aimed at the University age group with a programme on the lines of the old television favourite "That was the week that was" c72 03 14

1973 Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company set up [3.13]

1973 CEN, Marshall & Pye set up consortium commercial radio [3.14]

1973 A commercial radio consortium backed by three of the largest firms in Cambridge are asking other city organisations to join them in making plans for local broadcasting. The group have the support of Cambridge Newspapers ltd, the Pye group and Marshall of Cambridge. They represent the first major opposition to the Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company - a consortium set up several years ago by Mr Brian Jackson of the city-based Advisory Centre for Education. It may be almost 1980 before there is any chance of Cambridge getting a commercial station c73 07 24

1974 Cambridge not on list of 24 stations issued by Government [3.12]

1974 300 young people mobbed BBC disc jockey “Diddy” David Hamilton as he tried to punt down the Cam and forced him to abandon a live radio broadcast. As he crouched under a plastic mack in a Trinity college punt trying to conduct interviews and introduce records to several million Radio 1 listeners the crowd squirted gallons of water at him and threw pepper. Mr Hamilton, who had been keeping up a radio microphone link with an outside broadcast van at Garret Hostel bridge was rescued after a chaotic half-hour during which several people including a representative of the city’s entertainment department, tumbled into the river c74 05 07 [3.15]

1975 Four men ran a pirate commercial radio station from remote spots in the Cambridgeshire countryside, magistrates were told. They were caught in a field near Histon as they had just closed down a two-hour broadcasting session of Anglia Free Commercial Radio. They had previously put out two-hour broadcasts on Sundays from various spots in Cambridgeshire, and the programmes were heard in places as widespread as Exning, Waterbeach and Fenstanton. The magistrates ordered the transmitter to be forfeited. The men were fined between £50 and £70 each c75 02 21

1976 In 1974 the Crawford Committee recommended Cambridge as an ideal centre for a small-scale radio station but neither the BBC nor the IBA has included it in firm plans. There is however some chance of improved stereo reception. The BBC says they “hoped” that stereo transmission will begin from Tacolneston, near Norwich, in the spring. A booster transmitter on the Cambridge gasworks for stereo was a “very long-term project” for which there was no date c76 02 22

1977 BBC announce plans for city radio station [3.16]

1977 Cambridge University Broadcasting group formed (on air 1979) [3.17.5]

1979 Cambridge University Radio has on the air after months of delay. Broadcasting from a studio at Churchill College started with news taken from London Independent Radio and was followed by

local items prepared by students. At the controls - slotting in their own jingles between records and other programmes – was the radio enthusiasts' chairman, Mr Simon Cooper of Queens' college. At present reception is confirmed to the college but they hope to expand to Fitzwilliam and Jesus as soon as examinations are over. National radio DJs were amongst the guests at a celebration party. CEN c 7.5.1979

1980 J.Ward & sons close Burleigh st to concentrate on Bradwells Court; opened East Rd 1890s, made bikes, 1930s produced own wireless 'Wards three-valve', late 30s became one first country sell black & white tvs [27.2.10.12] {27.81}
1980 Hereward Radio starts broadcasting from studios in Peterborough, July [1.11,4.2]
1980 BBC radio from Norwich ceases [4.1]
1980 Cam radio - Cambridge's only community radio restarts, 2 hour programme Sunday [4.3]
1980 CB causes interference, jams emergency lines [4.5]
1980 Eastern England TV plans Cambridge base if wins IBA tv franchise from Anglia (fails) [3.18]
1980 'Roundabout East Anglia', the BBC's early-morning programme was launched in 1974 as the local newspaper of the air. But now it has been axed leaving Cambridge without any local radio service. The final programme included a nostalgia spot recalling the days when Chris Trace and Tony Scase worked there. Hundreds of listeners have written letters of condolence saying it was comforting to wake up with a familiar voice, some breezy story from the fens and a batch of other people's views on the region's social and economic climates. Now the Corporation has saved another fraction of a penny on the licence fee 80 05 30b
1980 When Radio Norfolk went on the air last night it gave a sneak preview of what the future could hold for Cambridgeshire. It will be exactly the same economy-style package – a small staff with highly sophisticated equipment broadcasting six hours each weekday and ten at weekends and Radio Two at other times. It will look for audience participation with phone-ins, sport and news. A manager for the Cambridgeshire station will probably be appointed in the autumn 80 09 12b
1980 Cambridge University radio doubled its potential audience when it went on the air in a second college. Now New Hall undergraduates have joined those of Churchill College in being able to listen to the amateur broadcasters. Home Office regulations mean they cannot transmit beyond college confines which requires low-strength transmitters and a forest of aerials over the city skyline – New Hall now has 12. 80 11 15a
1980 Radio Cambridgeshire – Hal Bethell plans – 80 12 23a
1981 "to have commercial radio, 4 groups bid (does not materialise) [4.6]
1981 Cambridge electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair, has launched the world's first flat-screen television. Working with Timex he hopes to produce a million tubes in 1982. The first will be a 6 x 4 x 1-inch pocket television costing £50 able to pick up transmissions anywhere. It may eventually lead to a large screen which can be hung on a wall 81 02 18c
1981 There are at least 300 Citizen Band Radio enthusiasts in Cambridge; they range from The Womble who at seven years of age can exchange patter with the best of them on her dad's set to Silver Fox who is 85. But their rigs are illegal, smuggled in and sold for between £65 and £150. The Government says they interfere with television sets and emergency services but the enthusiasts operate a 'bust fund' to replace any set seized. 81 03 02a
1981 The microchip revolution has made the television set the central feature for a host of things from plug-in videos to home computers. The latest is a service called 'Teletext' which allows viewers to view pages of information on their television screen. Eventually it will be accepted just as colour television is today. Now Labgear, who employ 170 people at Cambridge and Ely, have come up with a device which can adapt conventional television sets to receive Teletext. It costs around £250 and is aimed at people who wish to keep their own sets rather than buy a more expensive receiver. 81 08 18
1981 The wired radio system at Old Addenbrooke's Hospital in Trumpington was installed in 1952 after a public appeal organised by the News. Originally it provided the BBC Home and Light programme. The name Radio Addenbrooke's was coined in 1954 when Toc H. started football

commentaries which were recorded on tape and late related to patients. Then in 1956 Don Hale started a record request programme. When the new hospital opened a studio was also provided by public subscription 81 08 28

1981 Shops selling CB equipment have mushroomed in the last year and now the legalising of new FM frequencies has given it a boost. Electroshop at Cambridge Cattle Market have orders for 40 legal rigs and Cycle City Breakers Club say the majority of their members will move over to them, though 150 hard-core members will keep their AM rigs. The problem is children who use bad language on air. 81 10 14

1982 BBC Radio Cambridgeshire starts broadcasting from studios at Hills Road, Cambridge [1.12,4.7]

1982 Cambridge Community Radio, pirate station, silenced for 2nd time in year [4.8]

1982 Saxon radio starts [4.9]

1982 Cambridge University Radio broke, go off air, relaunched briefly1983 & 1984 [5]

1982 Radio Cambridgeshire, launched today, will broadcast six hours a day. Not long enough, says Hal Bethell, the manager, but all the BBC can afford at present. It will be a 'talk' station, rather than putting out music that aims to provide a new dimension in reflecting the local scene. He has a team of 25, three in Peterborough, and a shifting body of freelances who have been building up the widest range of background knowledge and contacts 82 04 29

1982 Radio Cambridgeshire goes on air – 82 05 01

1983 There can be no doubt about the popularity of film libraries; they range from cinema classics to soft porn. Some shops have the cassettes on shelves behind the counter leaving the hirer to choose from catalogues, others kept the cases on open display. It costs about £1.50 to hire a film for 24 hours with a deposit of £30. It is usual to leave a signed cheque which is exchanged for the return of the film. But tapes only have a limited life; constant use results in 'stretching' and tape 'slap' caused by poor rewinding. 83 02 20

1983 If you are accustomed to awaking to the dulcet tones of Julia Booth, Radio Cambridgeshire's early morning presenter, you are in for a shock. Station manager, Ian Masters' new line-up sees John Richards where Julia used to be, Nick Barraclough takes over his old slot and Anne Bristowe winds up weekdays. There is now no room for long wedges of worthy and dull speech; the news and information has to be presented brightly and accurately. When it opened 18 months ago it was an all-speech station but music is now an integral part of their output 83 09 30 p22

1984 Cambridge could have a new radio station. Churchill College has a custom-built system for piping radio into everyone's rooms from a studio in the basement. Much of the equipment has been soldered together by engineering students, but it works. They run news bulletins and features on discount travel as well as art reviews and general student gossip. Now students have applied for a community radio licence and hope to transmit their 12 hours of music and chat from Girton to Homerton. 84 11 30a & b

1985 independent radio "unlikely" [4.13]

1985 to be one of first with Community radio (plans shelved 1986) [4.14]

1985 It was standing room only in Queens' College as undergraduates and dons crowded in to watch the first part of a BBC documentary about their college. Even the bar was quiet as hundreds of college members jostled for the best positions around television sets. There were cheers of recognition for college personalities and hoots of derisions as candidates attending interviews for admission flunked the questions. The Senior Tutor has always supported the project because he believes Queens' has nothing to hide but does not want students to get too excited about the media attention. 85 10 17

1986 Ian Masters has a face and voice that is instantly recognised in East Anglia. He has had a highly successful career in radio and television as anchorman with BBC 'Look East', doing stints on 'Nationwide' and other shows including 'Come Dancing' with Terry Wogan. In 1982 he became boss of Radio Cambridgeshire where he started an early-morning 'Countywide' programme with dual presentation from Cambridge and Peterborough. Listening figures have shot up. Now having carved a new image for local radio in the county he is off to pastures new 86 11 28a & b

1987 IBA announce new radio station contracts ¢CEN 17.12.87
1987 When Margaret Hyde succeeds Ian Masters as head of BBC Radio Cambridgeshire she will be the only serving female station manager. Currently chief assistant to the head of broadcasting in the North West, she has worked for local radio in Merseyside and Radio Lancashire and will miss the 'anarchy' of Liverpool. She sees little reason for changing what is already a winning formula but is looking forward to bringing a 'fresh ear' to the station. 87 02 05
1988 Granta Radio is one consortium wanting to run a new commercial radio station. It includes the Unex Group and Newmarket entertainer Pete Sayers who know the area. CN.FM is backed by Cambridge Newspapers, Hereward Radio, Trinity and Jesus colleges. They would provide a high standard of service and provide an acceptable return to investors. Cambridge Radio would have high-quality talks with an evening slot for students while the Cambridge & Newmarket Broadcasting Company would be popular and entertaining yet informed on, concerned with and involved with the area. 88 05 06b
1988 CN FM selected to operate IBA radio contract ¢CEN 16.6.88
1988 Three Cambridge computer pioneers hope to revolutionise communications with a fibre-optic cable-TV service carrying eight or nine TV channels, some collected by satellite dishes. Eventually there would be 50 channels, an independent phone service, teleconferencing, a security alarm system, home shopping and remote banking. Cambridge Cable might link with Cambridge University's Project Granta to provide a data transmission service network from Girton to Addenbrooke's Hospital 88 10 20
1988 CN-FM has been chosen by the IBA as the new 24-hour radio station for the area around Cambridge. Backed by Hereward Radio and the Cambridge News it will be the most modern radio station in the country, with all the latest broadcasting equipment. It will aim programmes at the 15-45 age group and hope for a listenership of around 120,000 when it starts next spring. It will co-exist with BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. The other contenders, Granta, CNBC and Cambridge Radio wish them good luck 88 06 13
1989 CN-FM 103, Britain's newest commercial station, aims to provide local news, information and music to listeners in a 20 mile radius of Cambridge. It broadcasts from their main studios at Histon using the latest high tech broadcasting equipment with all its music on compact disc or digital audio tape. It has headhunted some of broadcasting's top presenters such as Dixie Peach, David Hamilton, Nicky Horne and Nino Firetto. They have also signed up 'Bungalow' Bill Wiggins to host a Sunday lunchtime show. 89 02 10a & b
1989 Anglia TV officially opened its new base in Jesus Lane – 89 12 01a

1996 Cambridge University scientists secure multi-million deal with Philips Components to develop flexible, flat-screen televisions, Sep [Rev]